REMARKS

Claim 1 remains in the application and is in independent form. Claims 2-13 have been

cancelled.

Claims 1 and 12 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S.

Patent No. 4,671,573 to Nemoto et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,110,195 to Schmutz et al.

However, the Examiner has indicated that claim 13 would be allowable if rewritten in

independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In response, Applicant has amended independent claim 1 to include all of the limitations

of claim 12 and allowable claim 13.

Accordingly, it is believed that the application is in condition for more favorable

consideration and Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in

this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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